REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed concurrently with the noted new US application, to submit the above amendments and the following information.

CLAIM FOR PRIORITY UNDER 35 USC §119

Applicant claims priority under 35 USC §119 of JP 2003-021298 filed 30 January 2003.

SUBMISSION OF CERTIFIED PRIORITY DOCUMENT

Attached hereto is the certified copy of JP 2003-021298, upon which priority is claimed in the above-identified application.

Written acknowledgment of receipt of the priority document, and completion of requirements under 35 USC §119 and 37 CFR §1.55, are respectfully requested.

PENDING CLAIMS

Original Claims 1-20 are presented herein for consideration and examination in this case. Unrelated to any prior art or scope or rejection, appropriate claims have been amended merely to correct informalities noted therein, in order to adjust a clarity and/or focus of Applicant's claimed invention. At entry of this paper, original Claims 1-20 remain pending in the application for consideration and examination.

EXAMINER INVITED TO CALL

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the local D.C. area number 703-312-6600, to discuss an Examiner's Amendment or other suggested action for accelerating prosecution and moving the present application to allowance.

CONCLUSION

This Preliminary Amendment is filed concurrently with the present new US patent application, and is therefore timely. No Petition for extension of time is required or possible for entry of this paper, and no additional claim fees are necessitated. Please charge any actual and proper fees due in connection with the filing of this paper to ATS&K Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (501.43439X00).

Respectfully submitted,

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ATTACHMENT:
Certified Copy of JP 2003-021298